Reactor for RAPP

3795. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan has lately requested the Central Government for approving two more reactors of 220 MW units each at RAPP (RAPP-5 & 6) to improve power supply position in the Northern Region;

(b) if so, the details of the projected units, including the cost thereof; and

(c) the reasons justifying the same and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Administrative approval and financial sanction to set up Rajasthan Atomic Power Project-5 & 6 (2 x 220 MWe), Rawatbhata, Rajasthan has been accorded by Government of India in March 2002. The construction on these units has commenced. This is in addition to the existing four units (RAPS-1 to 4) at the same location. The estimated completion cost of RAPP-5 & 6 is Rs. 3072 crore. The scheduled dates of commercial operations of RAPP-5&6 are August 2007 and February 2008 respectively. Setting up of these units is with a view to meet the electricity needs of the Northern Electricity Region, utilising the available potential of Rawatbhata site in Rajasthan.

Corruption in DAE

3796. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), there is no finance & technology audit by any Central agency in the name of National Nuclear Security and for Classified Records, rampant misappropriation of funds, drainage of National wealth, Mis-adventure on Technology and Nuclear blackmailing are going on at the cost of National Safety and Security as extensively reported in the print media;

(b) whether any action has already been taken to clean up the DAE's rot;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) is subject to audit by the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) like all other Departments of the Government of India. The Accounts of the Department are also subject to scrutiny by the Public Accounts Committee. Programmes of DAE are overseen and directed by the Atomic Energy Commission. The Department is recognised for the high calibre of its scientific and technical staff and several of these scientists are of international repute. The Department has been very successful in implementing all programmes in spite of challenges of technology development and external embargo.

(b), (c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

Nuclear Reactors to tide over power crisis

3797. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of reports in the press that 8 Nuke Reactors would be ready by 2008;

(b) if so, the quantum of power to be generated and the beneficiary States; and

(c) the other such projects that are proposed to be taken up in the future to tide over power crisis in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF A.TOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.